Suicide by Farmers in Maharashtra

3531. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers in Maharashtra, particularly in Adivasi districts who are depressed due to bad crop and burden of loan arc compelled to end their lives by suicide;

(b) if so, the details of such areas in Maharashtra State; and

(c) whether Government consider to implement crop insurance scheme, in that State; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) No report on suicide by farmers has been recently received from the Government of Maharashtra.

(c) The Government of Maharashtra has started implementing the new scheme i.e. National Agricultural insurance Scheme from Rabi 1999-2000 season.

Funds for Agricultural Development

3532. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposed allocation of funds for the development of agriculture in the country particularly in Assam and other NER States in comparison to other States during the year 1998-99; and

(b) the actual fund granted by Government for the development of agriculture in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF AGRRICULTURE(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) State-wise allocation of funds is not made under all Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Releases are made on the basis of proposals/demands received from the states and keeping in view unspent balances lying with the states out of the earlier releases.

(b) The details of funds granted/released to the States are given in the Statement.